

REMARKS

Claims 1-42 are currently pending in this application. However, in view of the Restriction Requirement herein, Claims 1-31 were withdrawn from further consideration. Accordingly, Claims 32-42 are under examination. Applicants gratefully acknowledge that the Examiner has found allowable subject matter in Claims 37-42.

The Examiner rejected Claim 32 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 7,512,388 to *Snider*. The Examiner rejected Claims 33-34 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Snider* in view of U.S. Patent No. 7,092,676 to *Abdelgany* et al. (hereinafter *Abdelgany*). The Examiner rejected Claims 35-36 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Snider* in view of *Abdelgany*, and further in view of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2007/0026827 to *Miyano* et al. (hereinafter *Miyano*).

Regarding the §103(a) rejection of Claim 32, it is noted that *Snider* has a filing date of September 22, 2005, which is pre-dated by the priority date of the present Application. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that *Snider* is ineffective as against the claims of the present application.

Specifically, the pending Application is a U.S. National Phase filing of PCT/KR2005/000743 (herein International Application), which has an international filing date of **March 15, 2005**, and properly designated the United States. An international application that designates the United States has the effect of a pending U.S. application from the international application filing date. "Often the date of entry into the national stage is confused with the filing date. It should be borne in mind that the filing date of the international stage application is also the filing date for the national stage application." MPEP 1893.03(b). Also see MPEP 1895. Accordingly, *Snider* is not prior art under 35 U.S.C. §103(a).

A certified copy of the priority document was properly filed and transmitted to the U.S.

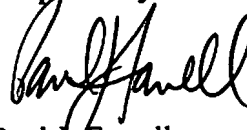
Patent and Trademark Office. See MPEP 1893.03(c). II, and the receipt of 'Document made available under the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT)' included in the official file history of this application.

As such, the rejection of Claim 32 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Snider* is improper, and must be withdrawn.

The foregoing applies to each of the §103(a) rejections herein, since *Snider* is the primary reference cited in these rejections. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections are improper and must be withdrawn.

Should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference or personal interview would facilitate resolution of any remaining matters, it is requested that the Examiner contact Applicants' attorney at the number given below.

Respectfully submitted,



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